

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(26)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners


**DATE:** February 5, 2013

**FROM:** R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging the Florida  
Legislature to support the  
opening of a SEED school  
in Miami-Dade County and to  
appropriate funds for such a  
school in Miami-Dade County

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa.

  
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R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/jls



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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County Attorney

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Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_ ) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor

Veto \_\_\_\_\_

Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(26)

2-5-13

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO  
SUPPORT THE OPENING OF A SEED SCHOOL IN MIAMI-  
DADE COUNTY AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR SUCH  
A SCHOOL IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, The SEED Foundation is a national nonprofit that partners with urban communities to provide educational opportunities that prepare underserved students for success in college and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, SEED created the nation's first public, college-preparatory boarding school model which brings under one roof academic, residential, mental health, physical health, social, and enrichment programs; and

**WHEREAS**, SEED is designed to serve students from low-income and underserved communities who face large barriers to success, both inside and outside of the classroom; and

**WHEREAS**, 75 percent of SEED students are eligible to receive free- or reduced-price lunches, nearly 80 percent come from a single- or no-parent household, and 84 percent of SEED's graduates are the first in their family to go to college; and

**WHEREAS**, SEED students are admitted by lottery, however, there are two or three applicants for every available slot, underscoring the high demand for the safe and nurturing learning environment offered by SEED's program; and

**WHEREAS**, 91 percent of SEED students who enter the ninth grade graduate from high school; and

**WHEREAS**, by comparison, just 76 percent of all students across the nation graduate from traditional high school; and

**WHEREAS**, 93 percent of SEED graduates from the classes of 2004 through 2012 have been accepted to a 4-year college or university; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 90 percent of those SEED graduates have actually enrolled in college; and

**WHEREAS**, by comparison, just 52 percent of low-income traditional high school graduates enroll immediately in college; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 60 percent of SEED graduates have college degrees or are currently enrolled in college; and

**WHEREAS**, by comparison, only 11 percent of low-income, first-generation students who enroll in college earn a bachelor's degree within six years; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2010, SEED partnered with Educate Tomorrow, a Miami, Florida-based nonprofit, to open the first SEED School in the state of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, the Florida Legislature passed Chapter 2011-236, Laws of Florida (SB 404) creating the College-Preparatory Boarding Academy Pilot Program, a college-preparatory public boarding academy for at-risk students, codified in section 1002.3305, Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, in November 2011, SEED was selected to serve as the school operator for such a school by the Florida Department of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2012 SEED's charter application to the Miami-Dade Public School Board was approved; and

**WHEREAS**, SEED has hired a South Florida project director who is on the ground in Miami, managing the process to open a SEED school in Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board would like to express its support and desire to have a SEED school in Miami-Dade County, as the low-income, at-risk youth of this County would greatly benefit from such a program,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that this Board:

**Section 1.** Urges the Florida Legislature to support the opening of a SEED school in Miami-Dade County and to appropriate funds for such a school.

**Section 2.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker and Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

**Section 3.** Directs the state lobbyists to advocate for the actions set forth in Section 1 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2013 State Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman  
Lynda Bell, Vice Chair

Bruno A. Barreiro  
Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
Sally A. Heyman  
Jean Monestime  
Sen. Javier D. Souto  
Juan C. Zapata

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.  
Audrey M. Edmonson  
Barbara J. Jordan  
Dennis C. Moss  
Xavier L. Suarez

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

APA

Annery Pulgar Alfonso

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